

# House File 451 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 451

BY HEDDENS

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to special education endorsements for teacher  
2 licenses issued by the board of educational examiners.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1     Section 1.   NEW SECTION.   **272.16 Special education**  
2 **endorsements.**

3     The board shall adopt rules for the issuance of the following  
4 endorsements for special education instruction:

5     1. Instructional strategist I: mild and moderate,  
6 authorizing instruction at various grade levels in mild and  
7 moderate instructional special education programs without  
8 regard to the instructional model for students under the  
9 following four endorsement options:

10    a. Option 1 for instruction for students in kindergarten  
11 through grade eight. The applicant must hold a regular  
12 elementary endorsement and present evidence of having completed  
13 the following program requirements:

14      (1) Foundations of special education.

15      (2) Characteristics of learners.

16      (3) Assessment, diagnosis, and evaluation.

17      (4) Methods and strategies.

18      (5) Managing student behavior and social interaction  
19 skills.

20      (6) Communication and collaborative partnerships.

21      (7) Student teaching in a kindergarten through grade eight  
22 mild and moderate special education program.

23    b. Option 2 for instruction for students in kindergarten  
24 through grade eight. The applicant must hold either a  
25 kindergarten through grade eight or grades five through  
26 twelve special education instructional endorsement, meet  
27 the requirements of paragraph "a", and meet the following  
28 requirements:

29      (1) Child growth and development with emphasis on the  
30 emotional, physical, and mental characteristics of elementary  
31 age children, unless completed as part of the professional  
32 education core.

33      (2) Methods and materials for teaching elementary language  
34 arts.

35      (3) Remedial reading.

1 (4) Elementary curriculum methods and materials, unless  
2 completed as part of another elementary level endorsement  
3 program.

4 (5) Methods and materials for teaching elementary  
5 mathematics.

6 c. Option 3 for instruction for students in grades five  
7 through twelve. The applicant must hold a regular teaching  
8 endorsement and present evidence of having completed the  
9 following program requirements:

10 (1) The requirements specified in paragraph "a",  
11 subparagraphs (1) through (6), appropriate for specified age  
12 and grade levels.

13 (2) Transitional collaboration appropriate for specified  
14 age and grade levels.

15 (3) Student teaching in a grade five through twelve mild and  
16 moderate special education program.

17 d. Option 4 for instruction for students in grades five  
18 through twelve. The applicant must hold a valid practitioner  
19 license with either a kindergarten through grade eight or  
20 grades five through twelve special education instructional  
21 endorsement, meet the requirements of paragraph "c", and meet  
22 the following requirements:

23 (1) Adolescent growth and development with emphasis on the  
24 emotional, physical, and mental characteristics of adolescent  
25 age children, unless completed as part of the professional  
26 education core.

27 (2) Adolescent reading or secondary content area reading.

28 (3) Secondary or adolescent reading diagnosis and  
29 remediation.

30 (4) Methods and materials for teaching adolescents with  
31 mathematics difficulties or mathematics for the secondary level  
32 special education teacher.

33 (5) Secondary methods unless completed as part of the  
34 professional education core.

35 2. Instructional strategist II: behavior disorders and

1 learning disabilities, authorizing instruction in programs  
2 serving students with behavior disorders and learning  
3 disabilities from ages five through twenty-one, or until age  
4 twenty-four if the conditions specified in section 256B.8  
5 apply. The applicant must present evidence of having completed  
6 the following program requirements:

7     a. The requirements specified in subsection 1, paragraph  
8     "c", subparagraphs (1) and (2), focused on individuals with  
9 behavior disorders and learning disabilities and appropriate to  
10 the ages and grade levels specified in this subsection.

11     b. Student teaching in programs across the age levels  
12 specified in this subsection. If the student teaching program  
13 has a unique age-level emphasis, the experience must include  
14 planned activities which incorporate interactive experiences  
15 at the other age levels.

16     3. Instructional strategist II: intellectual disabilities,  
17 authorizing instruction in programs serving students with  
18 intellectual disabilities from ages five through twenty-one, or  
19 until age twenty-four if the conditions specified in section  
20 256B.8 apply. The applicant must present evidence of having  
21 completed the requirements specified in subsection 2 focused on  
22 individuals with intellectual disabilities and appropriate to  
23 the ages and grade levels specified in this subsection.

24     4. Instructional strategist II: physical disabilities,  
25 authorizing instruction in programs serving students with  
26 physical disabilities from ages five through twenty-one, or  
27 until age twenty-four if the conditions specified in section  
28 256B.8 apply. The applicant must present evidence of having  
29 completed the requirements specified in subsection 2 focused on  
30 individuals with physical disabilities and appropriate to the  
31 ages and grade levels specified in this subsection.

32     5. Kindergarten through grade eight mildly disabled  
33 endorsement, authorizing instruction to mildly disabled  
34 children who require special education program adaptations  
35 while assigned to a regular classroom for basic instructional

1 purposes, or mildly disabled students placed in a special  
 2 education class who receive part of their instruction in a  
 3 regular classroom, or mildly disabled students requiring  
 4 specially designed instruction while assigned to a regular  
 5 classroom for basic instructional purposes. The applicant must  
 6 hold the general elementary classroom endorsement and one of  
 7 the following endorsements at the elementary level: learning  
 8 disabilities, mild to moderate intellectual disabilities,  
 9 behavioral disorders, multicategorical resource room, or  
 10 multicategorical-special class with integration.

11 6. Grades five through twelve mildly disabled endorsement,  
 12 authorizing instruction to mildly disabled children who  
 13 require special education program adaptations while assigned  
 14 to a regular classroom for basic instructional purposes, or  
 15 mildly disabled students placed in a special education class  
 16 who receive part of their instruction in a regular classroom,  
 17 or mildly disabled students requiring specially designed  
 18 instruction while assigned to a regular classroom for basic  
 19 instructional purposes. The applicant must hold a regular  
 20 teaching endorsement and one of the following endorsements at  
 21 the secondary level designed for programs serving primarily  
 22 mildly disabled students: learning disabilities, mild to  
 23 moderate intellectual disabilities, behavioral disorders,  
 24 multicategorical resource room or multicategorical-special  
 25 class with integration.

#### 26 EXPLANATION

27 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
 28 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

29 This bill directs the board of educational examiners to  
 30 adopt rules for the issuance of six specific special education  
 31 endorsements authorizing teachers to provide special education  
 32 instruction at the kindergarten through grade 8 (K-8) and grade  
 33 5 through grade 12 (5-12) levels, and for age 5 up to age 24.

34 The endorsements include the following:

35 The instructional strategist I: mild and moderate,

1 authorizing instruction at grade levels K-8 and 5-12 in mild  
2 and moderate instructional special education programs without  
3 regard to the instructional model for students under four  
4 endorsement options.

5 Instructional strategist II: behavior disorders and  
6 learning disabilities, authorizing instruction in programs  
7 serving students with behavior disorders and learning  
8 disabilities from ages 5-21, or until age 24 if certain  
9 conditions apply.

10 Instructional strategist II: intellectual disabilities,  
11 authorizing instruction in programs serving students with  
12 intellectual disabilities from ages 5-21, or until age 24 if  
13 certain conditions apply.

14 Instructional strategist II: physical disabilities,  
15 authorizing instruction in programs serving students with  
16 physical disabilities from ages 5-21, or until age 24 if  
17 certain conditions apply.

18 K-8 mildly disabled endorsement, authorizing instruction to  
19 mildly disabled children who require special education program  
20 adaptations while assigned to a regular classroom for basic  
21 instructional purposes, or mildly disabled students placed in a  
22 special education class who receive part of their instruction  
23 in a regular classroom, or mildly disabled students requiring  
24 specially designed instruction while assigned to a regular  
25 classroom for basic instructional purposes.

26 Grades 5-12 mildly disabled endorsement, authorizing  
27 instruction to mildly disabled children who require special  
28 education program adaptations while assigned to a regular  
29 classroom for basic instructional purposes, or mildly disabled  
30 students placed in a special education class who receive  
31 part of their instruction in a regular classroom, or mildly  
32 disabled students requiring specially designed instruction  
33 while assigned to a regular classroom for basic instructional  
34 purposes.

35 The endorsements specified in the bill are currently issued

1 by the board, but the board has submitted to the administrative  
2 rules review committee notice of intended action to eliminate  
3 the current endorsements on July 1, 2019, and replace them with  
4 a K-12 special education endorsement authorizing instruction  
5 in all K-12 special education programs for all students  
6 with disabilities except students with visual or hearing  
7 impairments, and with special education specializations,  
8 which are not endorsements and are not required for specific  
9 assignments, but may be added to a teaching license by the  
10 completion of an additional 15 credit hours dedicated to  
11 the specialization beyond the special education endorsement  
12 requirements. The specializations allow applicants to  
13 demonstrate expanded knowledge and skills with specific  
14 disability categories, including intellectual disabilities,  
15 autism spectrum disorders, behavioral/emotional disorders,  
16 multiple disabilities, and physical disabilities.